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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

R. MARTIN EMANUELE ET AL.

Serial No. **09/457,771**) Examiner:

Filed: **December 9, 1999**) Art Unit: 1635

For: Therapeutic Delivery Compositions and

Methods of Use Thereof

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendments and consider the appended remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, line 10. Please add, --The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/104,088, filed June 24, 1998, abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/926,297, filed September 5, 1997, abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/725,842, filed September 30, 1996, abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/138,271, filed October 15, 1993, abandoned.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A therapeutic composition for treating a human or animal comprising,

a compound [capable of altering nucleic acid function] <u>for altering gene activity</u> admixed with a nonionic block copolymer, wherein the block copolymer has the following formula:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC, 20231, on June 21, 2000.

Mary Anthony Merchant, Ph.D. - Reg. No. 39,771